

URGING THE PRESIDENT TO EMULATE GOVERNOR WHITMAN AND FIND A WILL AND A WAY TO REDUCE GOVERNMENT SPENDING

(Mr. MARTINI asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARTINI. Mr. Speaker, tonight Gov. Christie Todd Whitman will give the response to the State of the Union Address. She was chosen because of her determination to work for a smaller, smarter, less costly government in New Jersey.

It has been said "for democratic nations to be virtuous and prosperous, they require but the will to do it." Governor Whitman has displayed that will by her actions in making the tough decision. I can only hope tonight the President will come to Capitol Hill with that same determination to work with the new majority in Congress to once and for all transform the Federal Government.

Since January 4 the new Congress has demonstrated that type of will. This was apparent in the passage of the Congressional Accountability Act, as well as our willingness and determination to move forward to pass the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act and the balanced budget amendment.

Mr. Speaker, after the speeches are done tonight, what the American people will be looking for is not more talk, but rather for our President to cooperate and reaffirm the simple but effective lesson taught to us by Governor Whitman of New Jersey: Where there is a will, there is a way.

TIME TO PLACE FAIR VALUE ON THE PRESIDENT'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

(Mr. GUTIERREZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, tonight our President will come to this Chamber to speak on the state of our Union. Many pundits have suggested that this is a time to re-evaluate our President. Let me suggest that perhaps it is time to place fair value on what he has accomplished.

In the storm of myths and misrepresentation, much of it from the other side of the aisle, we lose sight of real accomplishments that affect real people.

President Clinton, despite partisan opposition, fought for an earned income tax credit that brought tax relief to 40,000 families in my congressional district alone, and millions in this Nation.

President Clinton, despite partisan opposition, has achieved the largest deficit reduction plan in history, while still creating almost 6 million jobs.

President Clinton, despite partisan opposition, has expanded Head Start for the children of Chicago and America.

And President Clinton, despite partisan opposition, has battled to take guns off our streets and put more police officers on them so we can be safer.

Mr. Speaker, I urge President Clinton not to re-evaluate but to continue to work for working people.

WHILE REPUBLICANS TRY TO CHANGE GOVERNMENT, DEMOCRATS TRY TO CHANGE THE SUBJECT

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, the biggest bankruptcy in the world today is not occurring in Orange County or even in Mexico, but on the minority side of the aisle right here in this Chamber. With their petty parliamentary pranks, the Democrats are driving themselves into the intellectual bankruptcy.

However, while the Democrats are busy committing slow political suicide, Republicans are making good on their promises to the American people to pass an unfunded mandate bill and a balanced budget amendment to the Constitution.

I have news for my friends on the other side of the aisle. No amount of partisan sniping is going to distract us from doing the real work the American people sent us here to do.

After we finish blowing the dust off the 10th amendment the Democrats for years have ignored, by passing an unfunded mandates bill, we are going to pass a balanced budget amendment as an encore.

While we are trying to change the Government, the Democrats just want to change the subject.

CALLING FOR MEMBERS' ASSISTANCE REGARDING FEDERAL INVESTIGATION OF WEAVER FAMILY KILLINGS

(Mr. TRAFICANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, in 1992 Federal agents attacked the Weaver family in Idaho. They killed 14-year-old Sammy Weaver. They shot him in the back. They then shot an unarmed Mrs. Weaver and killed her, shooting her right between the eyes as she held her infant baby. They even killed the dog. Court documents now prove the FBI lied in court. Federal agents fired first. Weaver was entrapped into a gun violation.

Mr. Speaker, is this the Justice Department or is this the KGB? I always thought in America our Government does not shoot 14-year-olds in the back. Our Government does not shoot unarmed mothers while they hold their infant.

Mr. Speaker, I have asked for a Federal investigation of this matter, and

both sides of the aisle need to provide some oversight to the agencies of our Justice Department. I would appreciate the Members' help.

THE REPUBLICAN MAJORITY CONTINUES TO PURSUE THE GOALS OF THE CONTRACT WITH AMERICA

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHABOT. Mr. Speaker, I have read a few news reports in recent days that suggest the Republicans are cooling on their commitment to the Contract With America. Let me just say, speaking for this newly elected Republican Congress, that just ain't so. Any reports that the Republican majority is backing away from the contract is wishful thinking on the part of those who support the status quo.

The fact is the new Republican majority is here to bring revolutionary change to the Congress. The Congressional Accountability Act has already been signed into law, making applicable to Congress laws from which Congress had exempted itself for years.

We will soon pass the bill to restrain unfunded mandates. Later this week or next we will take up and pass a balanced budget amendment containing, I fervently hope, a restriction on additional taxes. One by one we will work our way through the contract and fulfill our pledge to the American people.

Mr. Speaker, the Washington establishment and many of the guardians of the old order in this House may wish that the Republican majority failed, but we will not. The American people will not allow it to happen.

CONGRESS SHOULD STOP PARTISAN QUIBBLING AND PASS REFORMS SOUGHT BY THE AMERICAN PUBLIC

(Mrs. SMITH of Washington asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I have been in this office now for 20 days, and I have been keeping a list of all of the things that are supposed to be kept in the budget, as the minority has listed day by day just about everything to be left in the budget.

Mr. Speaker, I think what I find is they did not get the message this last November. Balancing the budget and getting rid of the national debt was the No. 1 issue the American people sent us here to do. We cannot spend our way to recovery.

Let us talk about what people really want. They want a strong America, an America in the future that will be able to pay its debt, and not have an America that cannot take care of its children; an America that can take care or